

state of utah



DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

DONALD A. SMITH
Director

1596 West North Temple/Salt Lake City, Utah 84116/801-533-9333

Route 4th - 5 M - Silver Reef
Washington Co.

xm
JWS
M.T.M.

ACT/053/002

July 13, 1978

Mr. Brian W. Buck
Engineering Geologist
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Brian:

We have reviewed the 5-M Corporation Mining Plan, Leeds, Utah, and offer the following for your use.

This operation appears to be located around the old Silver Reef mine operation. In the past, we have had some deer depredation in some small farms at Silver Reef; however, we feel this is of minor concern and that the area surrounding this operation is not critical deer winter range. Also, there is some Gambel quail habitat associated with Leeds Creek. Our major concern would be that Leeds Creek not be dried up and that sufficient water is available for wildlife existing along the creek. In general, the impact on game would be minimal.

Presently, Leeds Creek is diverted in Section 36, Range 14 West, Township 40 South. This diversion completely dries up Leeds Creek below the diversion and there is no fishery from the diversion downstream. This is the portion of the stream that runs through the area by the mining plan for the 5-M Corporation.

Leeds Creek above the diversion is presently managed as a wild cutthroat stream with cutthroat fingerling stocking to supplement the natural reproduction. An increase of use in this area could change management practices from wild to a catchable stocking. Other than a possible change in management, there would be no adverse effect to the fisheries on Leeds Creek as it exists.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this operation.

Sincerely,


Donald A. Smith
Director

GOVERNOR
Scott M. Matheson

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Gordon E. Harmston
Exec. Director

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